

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 9-21, 23-27, and 32-36 are currently pending. The Patent Office is thanked for the allowance of claims 4, 5, 10, 14, 15, and 18, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 8, 20, 26, and 28-31. To facilitate prosecution, claims 1, 6, 9, 11, 16, 19, and 27 have been amended to incorporate the indicated-as-allowable subject matter and claims 7, 8, and 28-31 have been cancelled. Claims 32-36 have been added. The support for the amended subject matter is found on page 16, lines 22-23, of the original patent application as filed by Applicant, in claims 10 and 20, and in claims 7, 8, and 28-31 whose limitations have been incorporated into the base claims. Because the subject matter of new claims 32-36 is found in previously presented claims 10 and 20 and these new claims depend from claims that should be in condition for allowance by this amendment, claims 32-36 should not raise new issues or require further search and consideration. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

The Patent Office rejected claims 1-3, 11-13, 21, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matthews, U.S. Patent No. 6,084,858, in view of Larsson, U.S. Patent No. 6,535,498. The Patent Office rejected claims 6, 7, 16, 17, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matthews, U.S. Patent No. 6,084,858, in view of Larsson, U.S. Patent No. 6,535,498, in view of Momosaki, U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2003/0119538. The Patent Office rejected claims 9 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matthews, U.S. Patent No. 6,084,858, in view of Larsson, U.S. Patent No. 6,535,498, in view of Hiroyuki, U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2003/0043746.

It is believed that the claims presented in this response are all in condition for allowance.

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and remove the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Matthews et al., alone or in combination with Momosaki, Larsson, or Hiroyuki, and to allow all of the pending claims 1-6, 9-21, 23-27, and 32-36 as now presented for examination. An early notification of the allowability of all of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

S.N.: 10/606,437
Art Unit: 6335

Respectfully submitted:

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

4/20/06 Ann Olszewski
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